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In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Previously presented] A method for workload planning
2 for a demanufacturing facility characterized by a plurality
3 of customers each having unique customer specific forecasts
4 and processing needs including critical operations,
5 comprising the steps of:

6 building in computer storage a spreadsheet workload
7 planning model for collecting and summing customer
8 forecasts adjusted by customer unique complexity
9 factors;

10 determining and entering to said spreadsheet workload
11 planning model for each of a plurality of prospective
12 customers, a projected volume of material for
13 processing by said demanufacturing facility;

14 determining for each said prospective customer critical
15 operations for processing said material, said critical
16 operations including those operations required for
17 removal of sensitive parts to prevent disclosure of
18 confidential information, recovery of parts needed to
19 satisfy a shortage requirement for build of other
20 products, removal of parts to prevent their re-use, and
21 removal of parts and materials as required by a vendor
22 commodity purchaser;

23 for each said customer, initially dismantling prototype
24 machines in accordance with said critical operations,

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25 including identifying work content and resulting
26 saleable, commodity, and trash items;

27 responsive to said dismantling, determining for each
28 customer and entering to said spreadsheet workload
29 planning model a unique complexity factor for
30 processing said material, said unique complexity factor
31 representing processing time divided by said volume as
32 defined during prototype dismantling and subsequently
33 modified by actual experience;

34 applying said projected volume and said unique
35 complexity factors to said spreadsheet workload
36 planning model for forecasting workload requirements
37 for said processing;

38 periodically updating said projected volume and said
39 critical operations;

40 responsive to updated projected volume, updated
41 critical operations, prior customer product shipment
42 experience and new demanufacturing product prototyping,
43 selectively adjusting said unique complexity factors
44 for each of said plurality of customers and entering
45 adjusted unique complexity factors to said spreadsheet
46 workload planning model;

47 applying said updated projected volume and said
48 adjusted unique complexity factors to said spreadsheet
49 workload planning model for forecasting workload
50 requirements for said processing;

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51 responsive to generating in said spreadsheet workload
52 planning model a summation of said projected volume
53 adjusted by said unique complexity factor for each of
54 said plurality of customers, determining staffing
55 requirements and productivity targets for a
56 demanufacturing enterprise for processing said material
57 for a plurality of future periods;

58 determining said staffing requirements for each future
59 period by summing staff requirements for all customers
60 adjusted by expected absenteeism factor, fatigue
61 factor, breaks requirements, and vacation patterns to
62 create an adjusted staffing requirement for said
63 demanufacturing enterprise;

64 responsive to said workload requirements determining
65 adjusted staffing requirement and resource balancing
66 between projects; and

67 responsive to said adjusted staffing requirement,
68 hiring and balancing staff between projects of said
69 demanufacturing enterprise.

2. Canceled

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of converting said volume to weight.

4. Canceled

1 5. [Previously presented] The method of claim 3, said
2 prototyping including the step of disassembly prototyping.

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1 6. [Previously presented] The method of claim 5, said
2 disassembly prototyping step being applied to new material
3 and further comprising the step of accumulating historical
4 data for determining said unique complexity factor for
5 previously disassembled material.

1 7. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, said
2 projecting step further comprising the step of determining
3 an expected number of truckloads of said material.

1 8. [Original] The method of claim 5, said disassembly
2 prototyping further including the step of determining
3 salvageable and disposable content for said material of a
4 given equipment type.

9-11. [Canceled]

1 12. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of periodically updating said
3 spreadsheet workload planning model based upon actual and
4 anticipated changes in said volume projections and said
5 unique complexity factors.

1 13. [Previously presented] The method of claim 12, further
2 comprising the step of calculating said productivity targets
3 for a demanufacturing enterprise using said volume
4 projections and said unique complexity factors.

1 14. [Previously presented] A method for forecasting
2 staffing requirements for a demanufacturing enterprise
3 characterized by a plurality of customers each having unique

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4 customer specific requirements including demanufacturing
5 complexity and critical operations, comprising the steps of:

6 determining for each of a plurality of prospective
7 customers, a projected volume of material returns for
8 processing;

9 determining from customer specific requirements for
10 each customer a unique complexity factor for processing
11 said material, including identifying any critical
12 operations;

13 said critical operations including removal of sensitive
14 parts to prevent disclosure of confidential
15 information, recovery of parts needed to satisfy a
16 shortage requirement for build of other products,
17 removal of parts to prevent their re-use, and removal
18 of parts and materials as required by a vendor
19 commodity purchaser;

20 converting projected volume of material returns for
21 each said customer to weight, multiplying said weight
22 by a unique complexity factor determined initially by
23 disassembly prototyping and subsequently modified by
24 actual experience to generate a staff requirement for
25 each of a plurality of customers, said disassembly
26 prototyping including dismantling prototype machines in
27 accordance with said financial benefit and cost factors
28 and further with respect to any said critical
29 operations, identifying work content and resulting
30 saleable, commodity, and trash items, said unique
31 complexity factor initially representing time for said

15-32. Canceled

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